

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

--1(Currently amended). A method for executing a query against a database to retrieve desired data from a database table, wherein the database includes a plurality of partitions for storing different portions of said database table data based on a partitioning schema, each partition associated with a partition identifier and database catalog information ~~asseeiated with~~ indicating data organization in said database, the method comprising:

(a) retrieving information within said database catalog information associated with said database table containing said desired data and relating to the partitioning schema;

(b) analyzing the contents of the query and the retrieved database catalog information to determine the specific partition containing the database table portion with the desired data and identifying a partition identifier associated with [[a]] the specific partition that includes data satisfying said query based upon the contents of the query and the retrieved database catalog information; and

(c) executing the query against said specific partition, whereby said desired data is retrieved.

2(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further includes:

(a.1) storing the retrieved database catalog information in a database catalog cache.

3(Previously presented). The method of claim 2, wherein step (a.1) further includes:

(a.1.1) building a subset of the database catalog; and

(a.1.2) storing the subset of the database catalog in the catalog cache.

4(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) further includes:

(b.1) resolving the partition identifier.

5(Currently amended). The method of claim 4, wherein step (c) further includes:

(c.1) executing the query and retrieving the desired data from the identified specific partition.

6(Previously presented). The method of claim 5, wherein step (c) further includes:

(c.2) forwarding the retrieved data to a client application requesting table data.

7(Currently amended). A database management system for executing a query against a database to retrieve desired data from a database table, wherein the database includes a plurality of partitions for storing different portions of said database table data based on a partitioning schema, each partition associated with a partition identifier and database catalog information associated with indicating data organization in said database, the system comprising:

a schema-lookup module to retrieve information within said database catalog information associated with said database table containing said desired data and relating to the partitioning schema;

a partition-router module to analyze the contents of the query and the retrieved database catalog information to determine the specific partition containing the database table portion with the desired data and to identify a partition identifier associated with [[a]] the specific partition that includes data satisfying said query based upon the contents of the query and the retrieved database catalog information; and

a data-manager module to execute the query against said specific partition, whereby said desired data is retrieved.

8(Previously presented). The system of claim 7, wherein the partition-router module includes:

a catalog-cache module to store the retrieved database catalog information in a database catalog cache.

9(Original). The system of claim 8, wherein the catalog-cache module includes:

a build-cache module to build a subset of the database catalog; and

a store-cache module to store the subset of the database catalog in the catalog cache.

10(Original). The system of claim 7, wherein the partition-router module includes:

a connection module to resolve the partition identifier.

11(Currently amended). The system of claim 10, wherein the data-manager module includes:

an execution module to execute the query and retrieve the desired data from the ~~identified~~ specific partition.

12(Previously presented). The system of claim 11, wherein the data-manager module includes:

a client-coordinator module to forward the retrieved data to a client application requesting table data.

13(Currently amended). A program product apparatus having a computer readable medium with computer program logic recorded thereon for executing a query against a database to retrieve desired data from a database table, wherein the database includes a plurality of partitions for storing different portions of said database table data based on a partitioning schema, each partition associated with a partition identifier and database catalog information ~~asocciated with~~ indicating data organization in said database, said program product apparatus comprising:

a schema-lookup module to retrieve information within said database catalog information associated with said database table containing said desired data and relating to the partitioning schema;

a partition-router module to analyze the contents of the query and the retrieved database catalog information to determine the specific partition containing the database table portion with the desired data and to identify a partition identifier associated with [[a]] the specific partition that includes data satisfying said query based upon the contents of the query and the retrieved database catalog information; and

a data-manager module to execute the query against said specific partition, whereby said desired data is retrieved.

14(Previously presented). The program product of claim 13, wherein the partition-router module includes:

a catalog-cache module to store the retrieved database catalog information in a database catalog cache.

15(Original). The program product of claim 14, wherein the catalog-cache module includes:

a build-cache module to build a subset of the database catalog; and

a store-cache module to store the subset of the database catalog in the catalog cache.

Amendment
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16(Original). The program product of claim 13, wherein the partition-router module includes:

a connection module to resolve the partition identifier.

17(Currently amended). The program product of claim 16, wherein the data-manager module includes:

an execution module to execute the query and retrieve the desired data from the ~~identified~~
specific partition.

18(Previously presented). The program product of claim 17, wherein the data-manager module includes:

a client-coordinator module to forward the retrieved data to a client application requesting table data.--